

for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. SCHROEDER. Mr. Speaker, it is springtime in America's schoolhouse but pink azaleas are not going to be sprouting. Instead, pink slips are going to be sprouting for America's teachers.

When you see what the House Republicans are doing, every school district is going to be forced with the following decisions, either fewer teachers and larger classes and cancelled drug education programs and cancelled remedial education programs, or raise local taxes. Those are terrible choices.

Why in the world are the House Republicans insisting upon sacrificing our children's future upon the altar of deficit reduction? That is exactly what they are doing. They have an altar of deficit reduction and they are saying we are just going to have to sacrifice the children's future, because there is no one who says larger classes, fewer teachers, drop drug education, and drop remedial education is the progressive way to go.

Let us stand up. We now know who is for America's kids and who is just kidding. Fight back.

UPCOMING PRODUCT LIABILITY MEASURE PROMISES FREEDOM TO RAW MATERIAL SUPPLIERS OF MEDICAL DEVICES

(Mr. GEKAS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GEKAS. Mr. Speaker, thousands of Americans even at this moment are benefiting from medical devices that have saved their lives or improved their chances for good health, knee and hip joints and brain shunts and pacemakers, all sorts of ingenious devices that over the years have improved the health care capacity of our Nation.

Yet, they are in danger, these device makers, these wonderful people who are developing these kinds of apparatuses for the improvement of health. They are in danger of losing their capacity to produce them because of suits against the suppliers of the raw materials that go into these medical devices.

Next week we are going to take a giant step in trying to prevent the slowdown of the production of these medical devices by putting in with the product liability measure that we will be considering a safeguard against the raw material suppliers, so that they will feel free to keep supplying these components that make these wonderful medical devices.

CUTS FOR SCHOOLS AND THE SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAM

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, \$3.3 billion in cuts for our

schools and major cuts for our teachers and for our young children. Then when our young children grow up to try and have a sense of independence and work in the Summer Youth Program, what do the Republicans do? They cut it.

Let me tell Members about a young person in my community. At the age of 2 and shortly after her mother married her stepfather, her family was involved in a car wreck that left her father permanently disabled. As a result of the wreck, this young child was injured so severely that she lost her spleen and left kidney. Yet she participated in the Summer Youth Program.

She lives at home. She keeps a little of her money and the rest of it she gives to her family for their needs. The family is on SSI. She has worked for the Smiley High School, the Texas Children's Hospital. She is trying to make a difference in her life.

There is no Summer Youth Job Program in this budget by the Republicans, no hope for our youth. No schools, no teachers, nothing for our young children and nothing for our youth. What are we talking about? Summer jobs are hope for the future.

HISTORIC PROGRESS TOWARD PEACE IN IRELAND

(Mr. KING asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks and include extraneous material.)

Mr. KING. Mr. Speaker, during the past 2 years, the people of Ireland have made historic progress toward a true and lasting peace. I am a cochairman of the Ad Hoc Committee for Irish Affairs, along with the gentleman from New York [Mr. GILMAN], the gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. NEAL], and the gentleman from New York [Mr. MANTON].

The Ad Hoc Committee today is issuing a statement for St. Patrick's Day. We are urging that all parties to this process continue on the path toward peace. Specifically, we are calling upon the Irish Republican Army to immediately recommence the cease-fire. We are calling on the British Government to make every good faith effort to answer any questions that parties to the conflict have regarding the recent communique issued in London.

We also call for the commencement of all party talks by June 10 without the imposition of any preconditions by the British Government, and we call upon the President to continue his policy of active and constructive engagement in the Irish peace process. The people of Ireland have come too far to allow recent incidents to deter them on their path toward peace.

Mr. Speaker, on a bipartisan note, which should characterize this policy toward Ireland, I commend the President for issuing a visa to Gerry Adams to enter this country, and I commend Ambassador Jean Kennedy Smith for standing up to the Anglophiles in the State Department.

Mr. Speaker, I include our committee statement for the RECORD, as follows:

CONGRESSIONAL AD HOC COMMITTEE ON IRISH AFFAIRS, ST. PATRICK'S DAY MESSAGE, MARCH 14, 1996

We, the members of the Congressional Ad Hoc Committee on Irish Affairs, ask all Americans to join with us in praying for peace in Ireland as we celebrate this Saint Patrick's Day.

The people of Ireland have worked too hard, and come too far on the road to peace to abandon the remarkable progress made in the past two years. The people of the United States—of Irish descent and otherwise—have shared in the joy of the Irish people at the significant steps forward just as we share in their disappointment and despair at recent setbacks.

To avoid squandering the hard-won gains toward a just and lasting peace for all Ireland, the government of the United States must remain engaged in the Irish peace process, both as an honest broker and as a guarantor of the equity of that process in ensuring that the legitimate aspirations of all parties to the conflict are fully represented. With this goal in mind, the Congressional Ad Hoc Committee on Irish Affairs:

Deplores the recent return to violence by the Irish Republican Army, and urges the IRA to reinstate the ceasefire immediately;

Calls on the British government to make every good faith effort to provide to all concerned political parties explicit clarification of any provisions of the recent joint communique by Prime Minister John Major and Taoiseach John Bruton;

Calls for the commencement of meaningful all-party talks by June 10th, without the imposition of any preconditions by the British government; and

Calls upon the President of the United States to continue his policy of active and constructive engagement in fostering the Irish peace process.

The 104th Congress has worked in bipartisan cooperation to support the Irish peace process. In addition, we have made substantial progress in addressing one of the root causes of the problems in the north of Ireland by moving closer to the historic passage of the MacBride fair employment principles as part of our contribution to the International Fund for Ireland.

We, the Members of the Congressional Ad Hoc Committee on Irish Affairs, are committed to ensuring that the United States continues to use its influence as a force for positive change in Ireland.

BEN GILMAN,	<i>Cochairman.</i>
RICHARD NEAL,	<i>Cochairman.</i>
TOM MANTON,	<i>Cochairman.</i>
PETE KING,	<i>Cochairman.</i>

SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO NEIL SMITH

(Ms. MCCARTHY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. MCCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay special tribute to one of my constituents. On game days, he wears the number 90 on a red and white jersey and is every quarterback's nightmare. I am speaking of the Kansas City Chiefs all-pro defensive lineman, Neil Smith.

Today I want to take note of Neil Smith's efforts off the field. Instead of sacking quarterbacks, Neil Smith is